

PESTICIDE INCIDENT REPORTING AND TRACKING REVIEW PANEL

PIRT MEETING SUMMARY

APRIL 21, 2005

**WASHINGTON STATE PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY
1610 NE 150TH STREET, ROOM S-4, SEATTLE, WASHINGTON**

PANEL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Maria Victoria Peeler	Department of Ecology	(360) 407-6704
Lucy Harter, Coordinator	Department of Health	(360) 236-3356
Joe Cropley	Washington Poison Center	(206) 517-2383
Allan Felsot	Washington State University (WSU)	(509) 372-7365
Steven Gilbert	Practicing Toxicologist	(206) 527-0926
Alice Larson	General Public	(206) 463-9000
Matthew Keifer	University of Washington (UW)	(206) 616-1452
William Robertson	Washington Poison Center (WPC)	(206) 517-2356
Dorothy Tibbetts	Department of Health	(360) 236-3361
Gabrielle Toutonghi	Department of Labor and Industries (L&I)	(360) 902-5478
Ann Wick	Department of Agriculture (WSDA)	(360) 902-2051

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Maryanne Guichard, Chair	Department of Health (DOH)	(360) 236-3391
Karen Ripley	Department of Natural Resources (DNR)	(360) 902-1691
Vacant	Department of Fish & Wildlife	

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Lynden Baum	DOH	(360) 236-3368
Barb Morrissey	DOH	(360) 236-3368

Opening

Maria Victoria Peeler called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. after the earthquake drill. The April meeting agenda was approved. The March 17, 2005 meeting summary was approved.

PIRT Review Panel Activities

Legislative Update on Pesticide-related bills

All bills except HB 1110, Pesticide application, have been dropped. HB 1110 relates to recertification standards for private applicators of pesticides.

Proposed PIRT RCW Revisions

Ann Wick will lead the sub-committee on revision of the RCW relating to the PIRT panel. The committee includes all Panel members as all expressed interest serving. DOH will support the revision in the 2006 Legislature.

2005 Action Recommendations

The Panel discussed ten preliminary PIRT Panel Action Recommendations (AR) for 2005. A lead was identified for each action recommendation. Dorothy proposed that the leads should be responsible for 1) defining the scope of the AR and rewording the AR, as appropriate, through consultation with other PIRT panel members and with final approval by the PIRT panel; 2) assembling a committee for the AR, if necessary; 3) providing status reports on the AR at panel

meetings; and 4) developing reports on the AR either for inclusion in the PIRT Report and/or as a stand-alone document to be posted on the PIRT web site. The panel expressed agreement about the responsibilities of the leads. Maria recommended that a timeline be set up for each AR with progress reported in a monthly status report. The leads for each AR will submit wording revisions for distribution to the Panel by May 6.

Drift

Options for addressing drift were discussed. Ann Wick and Dorothy Tibbetts suggested that as PIRT Panel members are not drift experts, instead of making recommendations to the legislature, PIRT could facilitate a conference/symposium/ for growers and workers, environmentalists, manufacturers and applicators. Discussion was favorable toward this idea. Carol Ramsey could help put on a conference. Allan Felsot proposed that drift could be a theme for the Pesticide Issues Pacific NW Conference in February, 2006. However, most panel members felt that the drift symposium should stand alone, separate from the annual conference in February. Maria Peeler suggested that a survey be conducted prior to the conference so that progress could be measured. Ann Wick will move forward on this and keep the panel posted on progress.

DOH Cause/Prevention and Worker Protection Standard Questions (WPS)

DOH has completed revisions of the interview questions on the possible cause and prevention of their pesticide exposures and on some aspects of WPS. The revised prevention questions will be implemented. The draft WPS questions will be forwarded to panel members who volunteered for this in January.

Cross-contaminations from Pesticide Applications

The Panel will invite researchers/faculty from WSU to present the work they are doing on cross-contamination.

Agency Updates

Agriculture

Nationally, state pesticide control officials are discussing the possibility of requiring participation in a national pesticide container recycling program as a condition of pesticide registration within a state. Washington State currently does not have regulatory authority to require this. If it is enacted, WSDA would require a federal change on the label and/or a change in state law. Required participation is being considered because of poor voluntary participation by pesticide registrants in the only existing plastic pesticide container recycling program. The program requires financial support in order to be feasible as the recycle value of plastics is not sufficient to support the extra handling costs of pesticide containers. Pesticide containers must be recycled in a separate stream from other plastics and go into approved, non-food container uses.

EPA and the states will be discussing the issues of secondary contamination by drift to non-target areas (including people) during the June State Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) Issues Research and Evaluation Group (SFIREG) meeting. Issues regarding exposure by drift and volatilization are planned for discussion. Minutes of this meeting will be available on the Association of American Pesticide Control Officials (AAPCO) website.

Labels for Lorsban and Guthion were distributed to the PIRT members. Because of time constraints, there was no discussion but members were asked to look at the directions regarding drift prevention and to be aware of mandatory and voluntary directions to applicators. This discussion can be continued at a later date as PIRT develops an agenda for the proposed drift conference.

Health

DOH and WPC continue to refine the case selection criteria for the new electronic reporting system.

Labor and Industries

Gabrielle Toutonghi presented findings from the cholinesterase monitoring program for 2005 to date. There have been two employees at the work removal level and 12 work place evaluation depressions. Several research investigations have been conducted for the employees/employers with ChE depressions to evaluate conditions associated with pesticide exposures.

WPC

Bill Robertson distributed copies of the *2004-05 Antidote Survey of Washington Hospitals by Washington Poison Center*. The survey identified which hospitals in the state had the 21 listed antidotes in stock.

Future Meeting Agendas:

Invite speakers on the issue of cross contamination of pesticides.

Invite students from Matt Keifer and Richard Fenske's UW class on Worker Protection Standards to present their proposed revisions to the rule.

DOH Pesticide Program will present their investigation on the Wilbur Ellis warehouse fire.

Future Meetings:

PIRT meets on the third Thursday of each month. All Seattle meetings will be held at the State Public Health Lab, 1601 NE 150th Street, Room S4. The Olympia meetings will be at the Department of Health, 7171 Cleanwater Lane, Tumwater. See the following list for the DOH building:

May 19, 2005 – Olympia – Building 4
June 16, 2005 – Olympia – Building 15
July 21, 2005 – Seattle
August – No meeting
September 15, 2005 – Olympia – Building 15
October 20, 2005 – Seattle
November 17, 2005 – Olympia – Building 15
December – No meeting

The meeting adjourned at 12:20 a.m.

For additional information contact Lucy Harter at (360) 236-3356 or lucy.harter@doh.wa.gov.